

PACIFIC PLACE

Seattle, Washington

Client: Pine Street Associates



Elkus Manfredi provided master planning for three major blocks in downtown Seattle and final design of one, which became Pacific Place, a five-level, 335,000-square-foot retail, dining, and entertainment destination. The focus is a crescent-shaped atrium capped by a soaring, 12,500-square-foot skylight that floods the public spaces with natural light. Parking for 1,200 cars is provided in six underground parking levels. Pacific Place truly functions as a part of the urban fabric of the city. This is a “people” place — an urban room belonging to all of Seattle.

Inside the strongly vertical space, circulation is designed to move visitors upward. The third-level bridge to Nordstrom’s flagship store, the 11-screen cinema, and restaurants showcased on the fifth level entice patrons up through the retail floors. Elkus Manfredi and co-architect NBBJ worked closely with retail tenants to develop a building exterior that assimilates easily into the existing scale and character of the surrounding downtown neighborhood. The impression for pedestrians is a collection of small, individual storefronts despite the five-story mass above. Patrons can enter Pacific Place in multiple locations via street-level retail shops or through common entryways. Public circulation forms a strong north-south link, which has encouraged development in the underutilized area immediately north of the project.



